

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A method is disclosed for obtaining a spreading code set for a code division multiple access (CDMA) communications system. The method includes (a) generating a  $P' \times P'$  spreading code set where  $P' = P / N$ , where  $P$  is the spreading gain in chips/symbol and where  $N$  is an integer multiple of 2; and (b) replicating chips in each spreading code by  $N$  to produce a  $P' \times P$  spreading code set. The step of generating may include randomizing the spreading code set by performing at least one or row or column permutation. The  $P' \times P$  spreading code set is subsequently loaded into system hardware for operating the system hardware with a bandwidth that is less than the bandwidth that would be required to operate with the  $P' \times P'$  Hadamard spreading code set. The CDMA system may be a synchronous, direct sequence code division multiple access communications system.